



## King County

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# PROCLAMATION

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**WHEREAS**, March 8, 2011 is the 100<sup>th</sup> anniversary of International Women's Day, a global celebration of the economic, political, and social achievements of women around the world and a day to recognize the obstacles women still face in the struggle for equal rights and opportunities and their central role in creating positive change; and

**WHEREAS**, in many countries, women are the primary food producers, yet are more likely to face poverty and hunger than men; and

**WHEREAS**, women are still denied educational opportunities, with girls accounting for 67 percent of all children denied primary education worldwide and women comprising 75 percent of the world's illiterate adults; and

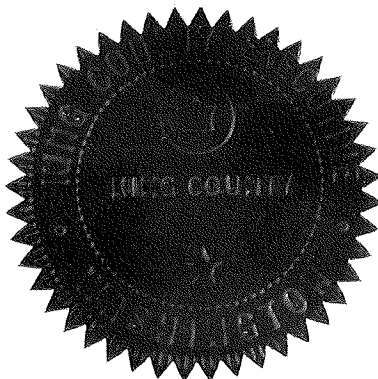
**WHEREAS**, women are working around the world to find solutions to hunger and poverty in their communities and have been at the forefront of innovative solutions to climate change, which hurts farmers through erratic growing seasons, water shortages, and rising temperatures; and

**WHEREAS**, Oxfam America is working through its *Sisters of the Planet* initiative to raise awareness about climate change, hunger, and other crises facing women in poor countries and to fight poverty and hunger worldwide.

**NOW, THEREFORE**, I, Dow Constantine, Executive of King County, do hereby proclaim March 8, 2011 to be

## International Women's Day

in King County. I encourage all residents to join me in supporting the goals of International Women's Day and Oxfam America in reaffirming our commitment to end gender-based discrimination in all forms.



Dow Constantine  
King County Executive